

Technology

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) provides funding for services and supports that promote wellness, recovery and resiliency. A portion of the MHSA funds have been specifically set aside for Technology. The County must show that use of these funds will:

- Modernize and transform clinical and administrative information systems to improve quality of care, operational efficiency and cost effectiveness
- Increase consumer and family empowerment by providing the tools for secure consumer and family access to health information within a wide variety of public and private settings

Required Components of an MHSA Funded Project

Any MHSA funded technology project must meet certain requirements to be considered for approval by the State.

- It must fit in with the State's long term goal to develop an Integrated Information Systems Infrastructure where all counties have integrated information systems that can securely access and exchange information.
- It must be part of and support the County's overall plan to achieve an integrated Information systems infrastructure through the implementation of an Electronic Health Record (EHR).

Ways to Use Technology Funds

Some of the ways the MHSA Technology funds could be used are listed below. This is not an exhaustive list of possible projects.

- To purchase a data warehouse to combine and store data from multiple information systems to increase or complete clinical picture available to the treatment team
- To purchase resources to increase consumer and family access to computers
- To fund scanning and imaging projects to allow the information system to become "paperless"
- Expansion of the Network of Care to increase consumer access to the Personal Health Record
- To fund pilot projects to monitor new programs and improve service outcome strategies

Proposed Use of Funds

The Health Care Agency is currently planning to analyze the best way to use the available MHSA funds to support the overall goal to create an integrated information systems infrastructure through the implementation of an Electronic Health Record (EHR).